

# A11YOOOP! 5 THINGS I DO TO MAKE SITES *more accessible*

1 – Kara Carroll | TableXI 2020 | @KaraAJC | [kara.codes](https://kara.codes)

# **1: I GOOGLE A11Y (*insert feature*) WHENEVER I BUILD A FEATURE.**

**HOW**

**1: LMGTFY 😊**

**2: find dev-specific resources**

**3: if it's an img, table, form, or  
layout, imma double check**

**WHY**

**1: I've learned from others' expertise**

**2: To find a solution quickly**

**3: Never hurts to check your own  
work**

## 2: I USE HTML TAGS, Say NO to *divs*!

### HOW

1: in haml I always try to use %tag

2: If I see a div that can be better defined, I change it

3: i.e. main, header, section

### WHY

1: Ally is built in!

2: Makes code easier to read

3: ... and easier to change

# **3: I ADD TITLES, CAPTIONS, AND ROLES TO HTML TAGS THAT NEED EM**

## **HOW**

**1: Add role attribute to div elements**

**2: i.e. img role=presentation  
or div role=button**

**3: i.e. th role=col/row**

## **WHY**

**1: Expressing intent helps assistive  
technologies**

**2: ...also helps other devs**

**3: ...and helps the client!**

## 4: I ASK, *"Is this information, or aesthetic?"*

HOW

1: For visual things like icons, images

2: Ask clients for clarification

3: Implement accordingly

WHY

1: Semantic HTML requires meaning

2: Folks can be missing out on info OR

3: Folks can be overwhelmed with unnecessary info

## 5: I RUN A11Y TESTING IN MY BROWSER

HOW

1: totally

2: AXE beta

3: Microsoft Insights

WHY

1: Hammering in WHY something is wrong helps you learn

2: Don't want to add to the problem

3: If I can fix something around the code I'm changing, why not?

## BONUS: HERE ARE THINGS WE SHOULD BE KEEPING TRACK OF WHEN WE BUILD:

- ★ Page titles are IMPORTANT!
- ★ Set language, it helps!
- ★ Don't let abstract writing cloud us from implementing ally  
*Cough Haml, Cough React*
- ★ Good tip: Zoom to 200%, are things still workable?

# IN SUMMARY:

- ★ Google Now To Remember Later
- ★ Use HTML's built-in A11y
- ★ Add attributes when you have to (particularly, `role` & `title`)
- ★ Ask yourself: Is this information, or aesthetic?

# WHAT NEXT?!

- ★ Join the #accessibility channel in Slack
- ★ Check out the work that's been documented so far.
- ★ JUST DO IT.

THANK YOU!

# RESOURCES

## TOOLS:

- ★ [a11y Tutorials by WCAG](#)
- ★ [Sitelmprove A11y checker](#)
- ★ [Totally](#)
- ★ [Img alt decision tree](#)